

The Federal Communications Commission

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

We run a small farm business that relies heavily on the use of our cell phone. I was down sized by a large company and am struggling to become a contributing member of our local agricultural economy. My family is not alone in this situation especially in my area. In order for my families efforts to become viable contributors to our community, it is essential that our living costs remain low. We are currently living below the poverty rate and the desision you make regarding the flat fee proposal will directly effect our quality of life! I urge you to reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund. I am concerned that this proposal could make my current service unaffordable.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. In other words, low-volume and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as a high-volume residential or business customers. This is unfair!

I use my wireless phone for family and farm and count on it for safety, security and convenience. Our usage is about 150 minutes per month on average. We also use calling cards to reduce our long-distance costs and I understand this will affect these as well. I don't want to lose the current benefits of my wireless services so that big businesses can pay less than their fair share. I urge you to reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee.

Keep the USF Fair!

Sincerely,

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